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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
TODD SIEGEL et al.

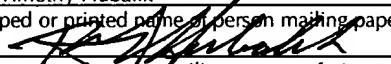
Serial No.: 09/539,834

Filing Date: March 31, 2000

For: AUTOMATED SOLID
PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT
PACKAGING MACHINE

Box: IDS
Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C., 20231

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) Group Art Unit: 3721
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) Examiner: S. Tawfik
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"
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Date of deposit: October 25, 2001
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Box IDS, Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
Timothy Hubalik
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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for the above captioned patent application are:

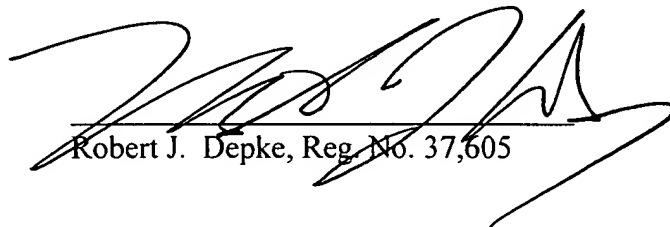
1. An Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) ;
2. PTO-1449;
3. Copies of the cited art;
4. Check for \$180.00; and
5. Postcard.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 25, 2001

MAYER BROWN & PLATT
P. O. BOX 2828
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690-2828
(312) 701-8786


Robert J. Depke, Reg. No. 37,605



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C., 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180.00 for filing this information disclosure statement.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Applicants also concurrently herewith submit The Autopack Solid Pharmaceutical Packaging device which is automatically capable of directly filling individual product package cavities. Neither this new reference nor the Knudsen reference provides any teaching or

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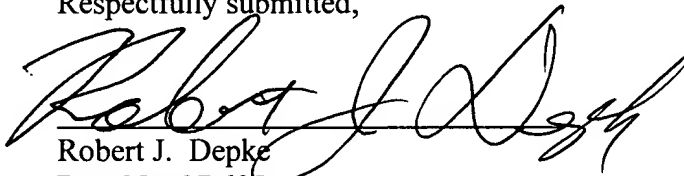
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suggestion regarding yet an additional step of the use of product package template cavities. The autopack system represents the state of the art machinery as of the filing date of Applicants' present patent application. One of the shortcomings of these systems is that the filling process could not continue until a new package member was inserted beneath the filling station. In accordance with Applicants' presently claimed invention through utilization of filling individual templates, the template filling process can run essentially continuously while further processing of a filled solid pharmaceutical package has been undertaken.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert J. Depke
Reg. No. 37,605

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Dated: October 25, 2001

Form PTO-1449

Docket Number (Optional)
00632649Application Number
09/539,834INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION

Applicant

TODD SIEGEL et al.

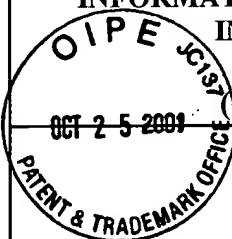
Filing Date

3/31/2000

Group Art Unit

3721

(Use several sheets if necessary)



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,664,289	05/12/87	Shimizu et al.	221	2370	09/20/85
	4,834,264	05/30/89	Siegel et al.	221	200	01/11/88

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Sales brochure of Tosho Inc. for "Automatic Tablet Packing Machine BPM/CE" dated 98/06/01.
	Sales brochure of Medical Packaging Inc. for "AutoPak™BPM", undated.
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

PTO/SB/08(2-92)

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE